

IRON MIRAGE

CHAPTER 171: THE MIST MISSION, PART 9
MOKO UTAKATA



CATCH
HIM!
DON'T
LET HIM
GET
AWAY!

THE
GATE'S
CLOS-
ING!

What
?!

Translation: Adrianne Beck Lettering: Annaliese "Aco" Christman

DID HE
PLAN FOR
THIS TO
HAPPEN?!

TO THINK
THAT WOULD
SUDDENLY
TURN OUT
TO BE USE-
FUL NOW.

SO
THAT'S
WHAT
IT IS.

HEH
HEH...
I SEE
NOW.

2N00000

IT'S
STILL NOT
CLOSED!
HURRY!
WE MIGHT
JUST
MAKE IT
IN TIME!

ALL
RIGHT,
THEN!
WE'LL
SAVE IT
FOR THE
NEXT
TIME WE
MEET!

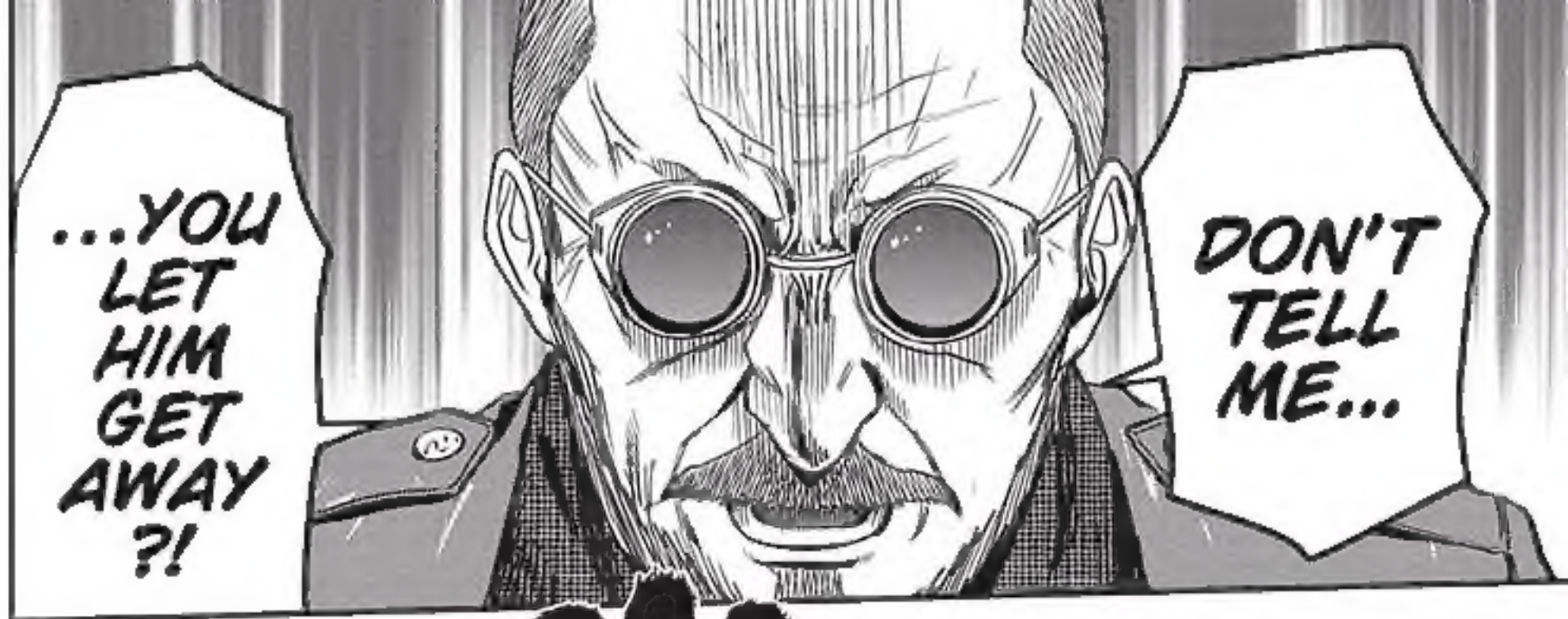
ヱハハハハハ...
HW0000

VWIP

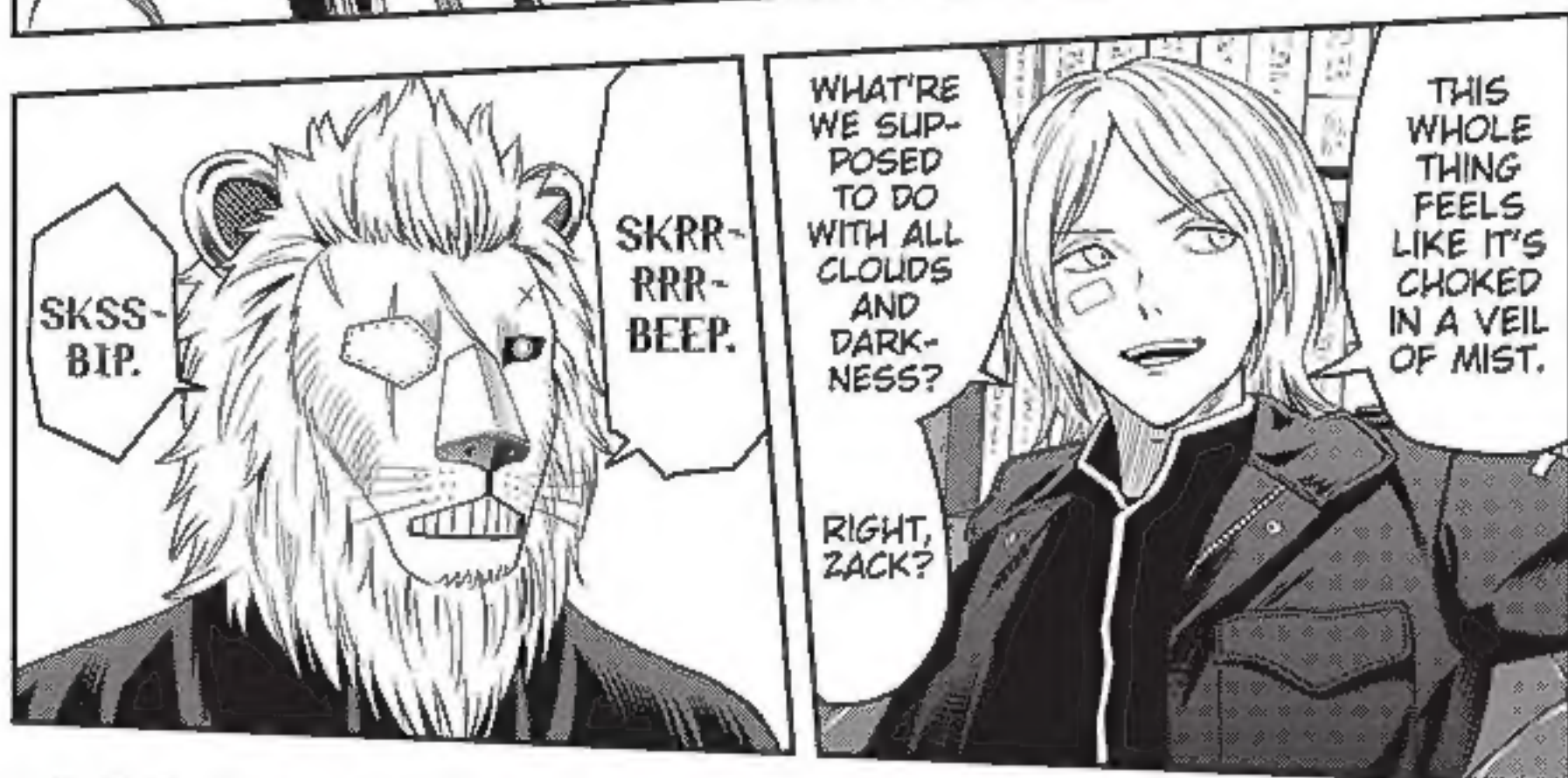
ヱ-...

No!

IT...IT
CLOSED
...







HE
HAS
MADE
HIS
MOVE.







KASUMI.
THIS IS
WHAT
ZACK
WAS
TRYING
TO SAY.



AH!
OH MY
GOSH,
I'M SO
SORRY.
I CAN'T
BELIEVE
I SAID
THAT...



GOT
IT?

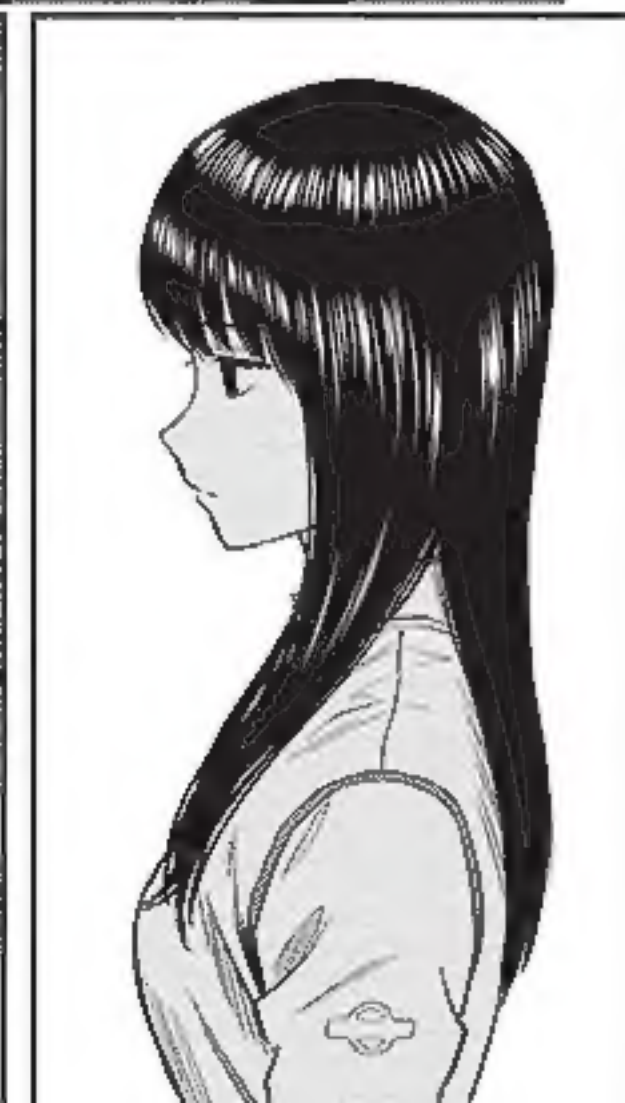
IF ONE
DOST FEAR
THE WAY,
WHEREFORE
THE PALTERED
SOOTH BE
CLEARED?



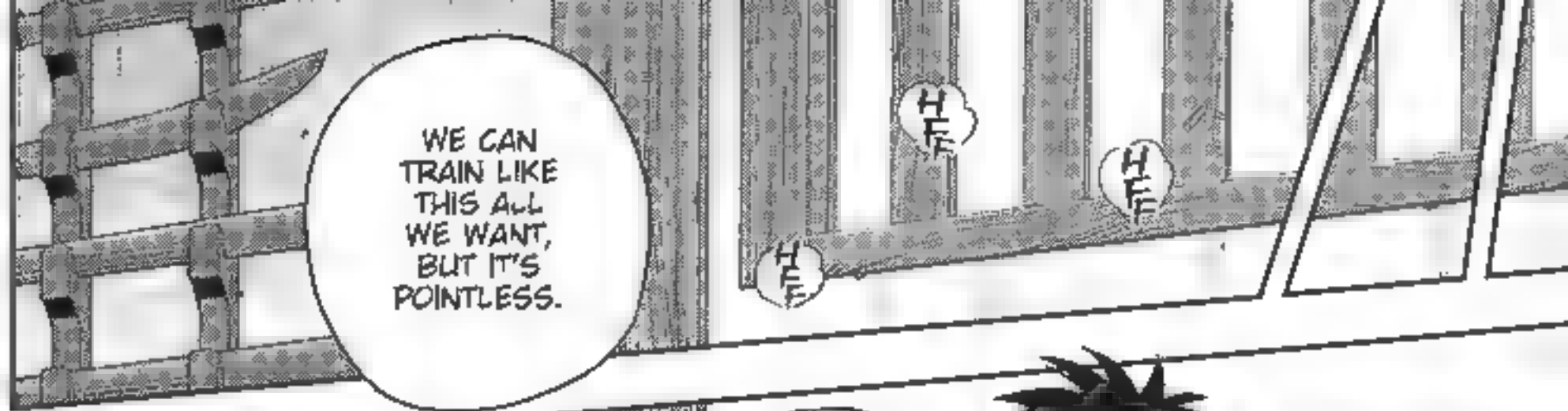
...



...



...



WE CAN
TRAIN LIKE
THIS ALL
WE WANT,
BUT IT'S
POINTLESS.

HFE

HFE

IT'S MY
FAULT THE
MISSION
FAILED.

IF I'D
KNOWN
HOW TO
MAKE
BETTER
USE OF MY
POWER,
THEN
MAYBE...



HEY!

HAH! DON'T
GET SO FULL
OF YOURSELF.
LIKE YOU
WHITENLINGS
ARE ALL THAT
GREAT IN THE
FIRST PLACE.



I'M
MISSING
THAT VITAL
SOMETHING
THAT I
REALLY
NEED.

IT'S
MY
FAULT.





YEAH.



I
THOUGHT
YOU
RECEIVED A
LEGENDARY
SWORD
THERE.

...DIDN'T
YOU GO
TO THE
DESTINED
LAND IN
ELDER
BOUBOU'S
PROPHECY?

COME
TO
THINK
OF
IT...



SURELY,
THEY SHALL
GUIDE YOU TO
WHERE YOU
ARE MEANT
TO GO.

GO TO THE
PROPHESED
LAND AND
MEET THE
ONE.



I
JUST
TOLD
YOU! I'M
MISSING
SOME-
THING!

THEN
WHY
AREN'T
YOU
USING
THE LEG-
ENDARY
SWORD?!



?



I
DID.

YOU
ACTU-
ALLY
FOUND
IT?!



KANGAKU OHIRA
SENATE FIRST SEAT

AAH
THE ENTIRE
SENATE
TOGETHER
IS TRULY A
MAGNIFICENT
SIGHT.

FRANK STRAIGHT
SEVENTH SEAT



Even
the mole
we sent to
spy on the
Feints has
come.

ARAWA
THIRD SEAT



CORRECT.
IT'S UNCLEAR
HOW MANY
MASTERS THAT
SWORD MAY
HAVE HAD
IN THE LAST
UNTOLD
CENTUR ES...

...BUT IT
SEEMS
PRUDENT
TO ASSUME
THAT
NUMBER
IS CLOSE
TO ZERO.

MUKITAN
SOTCHOKU
FIFTH SEAT



I HEARD
FROM ONE
WHO KNEW
A SCHOLAR
WHO SAYS
ANCIENT
TEXTS
PROCLAIM
THAT
ONLY ITS
CHOSEN
ONES CAN
WIELD IT.

IS IT
TRUE
THAT
SWORD
HAS
FALLEN
INTO
THEIR
HANDS?

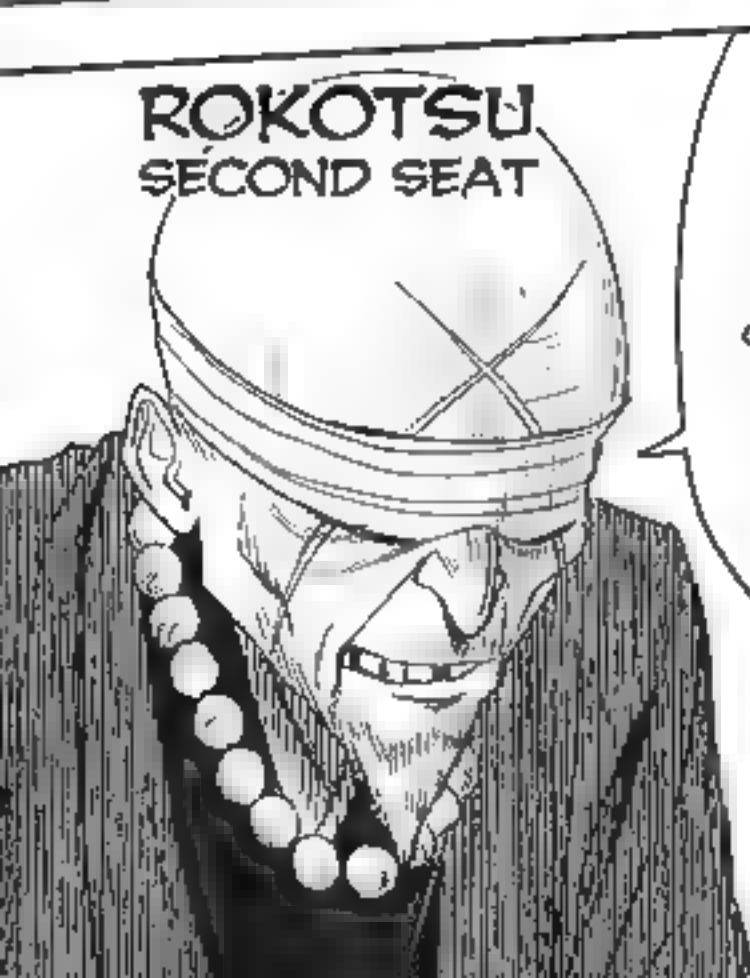
AKESUKE
AKASU
FOURTH SEAT



ROKOTSU
SECOND SEAT

Yes.
The Uron
Dais. It's
a boulder
of strange
material,
neither
stone nor
iron.

I'VE HEARD
A RUMOR
THAT THE
SWORD
IS STUCK
IN SOME
UNKNOWN
MYSTERY
SUBSTANCE.



LALA SEKI
SIXTH SEAT




...WHEN
THE SWORD IS
FINALLY DRAWN,
AN INEXPLICABLE
MALADY WILL
BEFALL A RANDOM
MEMBER OF THOSE
CLOSE TO THE
NEW BEARER,
CAUSING THEM
TO COLLAPSE.

ACCORDING
TO THE HEAVEN
DOCUMENTS,
WHICH RECORD
THE HIDDEN
WORDS OF
THE HEAVEN
INSCRIPTION...

WE HAVE
NO WORD
THAT HAS
HAPPENED.
THEREFORE,
THE SWORD
YET RESTS
IN ITS DAIS.

POOM





YEAH. I TRIED THIS AND THAT, DOING ALL KINDS OF THINGS THAT I THOUGHT OF OR HEARD ABOUT TO DRAW IT FROM THE STONE, BUT... NOTHING.

ALL I CAN TELL YOU IS THAT IT TAKES MORE THAN MERE STRENGTH TO GET IT TO BUDGE.


SO THIS IS THE LEGENDARY SWORD...
THE MIRAGE.



BUT I STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT THING IS.

HE SAID I COULD DRAW IT ONCE I FINALLY REALIZED WHAT IT IS I TRULY NEED.

I DO REMEMBER WHAT THE ELDER SAID.



IF YOU TRULY ARE WORTHY, CHANCE WILL LAYER UPON CHANCE UNTIL YOU FINALLY REACH WHAT YOU NEED.

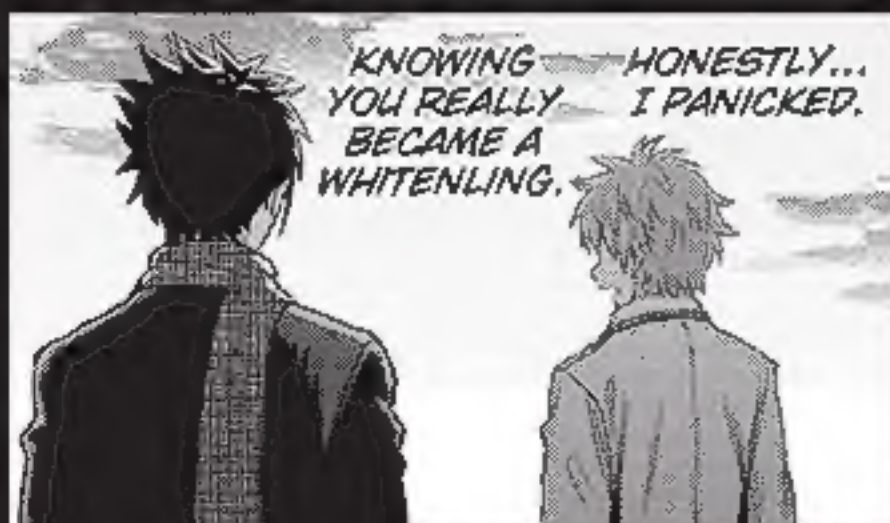
DON'T PANIC.

IT'S NOT LIKE YOU TO GET SO DOWN.



GEEZ... IT'S SO HARD TO DESCRIBE WHAT I FEEL RIGHT NOW.

HAVING THIS PROOF THAT I'M NOT WORTHY SHOVED IN MY FACE... I CAN'T FIND THE WORDS.



KNOWING
YOU REALLY
BECAME A
WHITENLING.

HONESTLY...
I PANICKED.



YOU
AWAKENING
INTO YOUR NEW
POWER MAY
HAVE BEEN
ONE OF THOSE
CHANCES.



...SO I
TRIED
TO GET
STRON-
GER.

I DIDN'T
WANT TO
GET LEFT
BEHIND..

THAT'S
RIGHT.

BECOME
COMRADES
WHO PUSH
EACH
OTHER TO
GREATER
HEIGHTS.

TAKE
EACH
OTHER'S
HAND.

THE
TWO
OF YOU
MUSTN'T
FIGHT.







WHAT'S THE MATTER?!

HE SUDDENLY COLLAPSED!

SKRRR... BIP...

FRANK! ARE YOU OKAY?!

FRANK!

To be continued!



IRON MIRAGE.



WE'LL PULL IT TOGETHER.

GRIP IT WITH ME.



JUST LIKE WE FIGHT TOGETHER...

...AS PALS !!



THEY SHALL BE GRACED WITH THE SWORD'S OWN NAME, CALLING THEM...